



Friday Night Facts

October 31, 2011

Office of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives

Mitchell E. Daniels, Jr., Governor

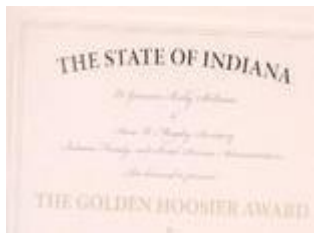
James F. Huston, Executive Director



Big news coming soon...

Looking to connect your faith-based or community-based organization to funding, contract, or volunteer programs with the State of Indiana? There is exciting news coming soon from the OFBCI, so stay tuned for a special announcement about getting better access to state resources and opportunities.

Lt. Governor honors community service



At a ceremony held in the Normandy Barn of the Indiana State Fairgrounds, Lieutenant Governor Becky Skillman honored 24 Hoosiers, from all over Indiana, for their work in community service.

Honorees served in varying areas, including work with churches, senior populations, food pantries, teaching, public health, financial literacy, and many more.

To watch the awards ceremony in it's entirety, just [click here](#).



GCSV resources available online

Following the successful completion of the 2011 Governor's conference on Service and Volunteerism, attendees can now download their favorite documents, slideshows, and other materials via the OFBCI's Slidshare account.

[Click here to access the files from GCSV11](#)

Quick Links

[Indiana OFBCI](#)

[AmeriCorps Indiana](#)

[State of Indiana](#)

Community Calendar

- Nov 1 - [Girl Scouts of Central Indiana Lt. Governor's Leadership Luncheon](#)
- Nov 4 - [Camptown Annual Dinner & Silent Auction](#)
- Nov 11 - [Kids Against Hunger food packing at St. John Lutheran Church](#)
- Nov. 14-16 - [NOAA: How to improve public response \(COADs, VOADs, and tornadoes\)](#)
- Nov 29 - [Governor's Council on People with Disability Conference](#)

Help rename *Friday Night Facts*

As you may have noticed, *Friday Night Facts* will no longer be delivered on Friday. We will officially be moving it's delivery day to Monday, and we need your help in renaming it.

Submit your suggestions for renaming Friday Night Facts to Dtrovillion@ofbci.in.gov. The winning title get recognition in a future newsletter and ***there may even be a cool prize in it for you!***

Veterans, 9/11 inspire service

As we approach Veterans Day (Friday, November 11), it is the perfect time to reflect upon the September 11 National Day of Service and Remembrance, sponsored in part by OFBCI, and highlight how the men and women in the military have inspired community-members to serve. We hope it is an inspiration shared by readers throughout the year, but with particular reverence on days like Veterans Day and 9/11.

- The University of Southern Indiana ACT AmeriCorps program, Student Engagement Corps, USI's Student Veteran's office and Vanderburgh School Corporation collaborated to make presentations to school children about 9/11 and the students made 100 care packages that were sent to soldiers in Afghanistan. The program also participated in a large event at Ft. Branch that honored veterans. This event had 532 volunteers that served 600 hours.
- The 9/11 Memorial Project at the Roudebush VA Hospital on Saturday, September 17, 2011 was a collaborative effort of the AIDS United National Direct AmeriCorps Team and program alumni, the Indiana Neighborhood Resource Center AmeriCorps Public Allies and alumni, and the Marion County Commission on Youth (MCCOY) AmeriCorps VISTA programs. The combined resources of 22 AmeriCorps and alumni volunteers and several staff members of the VA Hospital dedicated their efforts to participating in the VA Hospital's Living History initiative.
(participants pictured below)



- Many veterans have returned home to the US from wars and military conflicts across the globe both severely wounded and lacking the support system needed to adequately navigate their treatment and recovery. The Living History project consisted of engaging long-term-in-patient or visiting out-patient care veterans through personal and structured interviews with the following intended results: Providing human interaction for veterans who might not be receiving consistent visits from family or friends, ask the veteran to speak about their lives and their life experiences – including their military service, and to record special interests or passions of veteran. During this time, volunteers were able to engage nearly 40 veterans in personal interviews. As a thank you for being interviewed, care packages were created for participating veterans. At least 150 care packages were prepared with the excess remaining at the VA hospital for dispersion to other veterans.

Have your own story to tell about this topic? Please go to our [Facebook Wall](#) and share how much service, especially service to military members, means to you.



Commissioner highlight: Alan Witchey

Q: Tell us about your first volunteer experience.

A. I got heavily involved in volunteering in high school. We cleaned parks, visited nursing homes, and even painted old train cars as part of a beautification project. I was hooked right away and knew that service was going

to be part of my life for the rest of my life.

Q: Tell us about how you promote volunteerism and service in your community.

A: As the Volunteer Center Director at United Way of Central Indiana, I promote volunteerism through community trainings to nonprofits and businesses, online resources, by coordinating large *Days of Service* for thousands of volunteers, and working collaboratively with many community partners to find ways to mobilize more volunteers. ReadUP, our tutoring program for 3rd-5th graders, engages about 1,000 volunteers annually, and our organization engages about 16,000 volunteers annually.

Q: What is your view of volunteerism throughout the state?

A: I was born and raised in Fort Wayne, went to school in Bloomington, and now live in Indianapolis. I know that volunteerism is valued throughout the state because I have seen it in all three of these communities. In Fort Wayne, I think kids are taught the value of service from a young age and continue through high school. Our colleges and universities, like IU, continue that tradition for young adults. And then so many nonprofits facilitate the opportunity for life-long careers as volunteers. We are lucky to live in a state where so many understand the importance of service.

Q: What words do you associate with volunteerism?

A: Freedom, getting more than you give, feeling complete, balance in life.

Q: What is a key challenge related to volunteerism?

A: Keeping volunteers engaged in meaningful opportunities is a key challenge. Sometimes volunteers come in large groups, and it is difficult to find effective and meaningful ways to engage them all. Other times, people really want to see and feel their impact right away, but true community change takes time.

Q: What is a key opportunity related to volunteerism?

A: The biggest opportunity we have related to volunteerism is to engage young people. Volunteerism teaches important values, skills, and awareness of the world around us. By teaching young people the importance of volunteerism, we can change the world. And we know that children that volunteer do better academically and are more likely to be engaged in the community as adults.

Q: Any other interesting topic you think our readers would be interested in knowing about you?

A: I have a beautiful 4 year old daughter who is already learning the value of volunteerism. At her school, they have done hop-a-thons for cancer so she has been raising funds and awareness since age two. It's never too early to start.

Alan Witchey is the Volunteer Center Director for United Way of Central Indiana and is a member of the Indiana Commission on Community Service and Volunteerism.

Bios of all Commissioners are [available here](#).

NCCC accepting proposals for 2012 projects

AmeriCorps' National Civilian Community Corps (NCCC) needs people power for a project. They are seeking proposals for team based community service projects, typically lasting 6-8 weeks, that focus on at least one of these service areas: disaster services, energy conservation, environment, infrastructure improvement, urban and rural development. The application deadline is November 18th for projects hosted March 12 – May 11, 2012.

Learn about NCCC, review the Request for Proposals (RFP) and [application here](#).

Updated deadlines for 2012 NUSA conference tours, presenters

Submitted by the Indianapolis Neighborhood Resource Center

Be part of the annual Neighborhoods, USA (NUSA) conference from May 23-26, 2012, in Indianapolis. There is a special opportunity for persons or groups interested in receiving assistance with their workshop application or Neighborhood Pride Tour application. The new deadline for submission is November 18th by 5:00pm. Join us for a technical assistance session on Monday, October 24th or Tuesday, November 1st from 5:00pm to 7:00pm at INRC's offices located at 1802 N. Illinois Street. Please RSVP along with an approximate time you will arrive since we will be working with people as they come in on a one-on-one basis.

To learn how to become involved in the conference and to RSVP for either evening, contact Cassandra Gillenwater at cgillenwater@inrc.org or call 920-0330 ext. 109. You can also download forms at <http://www.inrc.org/neighborhoods-usa-nusa-2012/>

YSA requests grant proposals

Submitted by Youth Service America (YSA)

YSA is currently accepting applications for three of our signature YSA Grants programs – worth over \$350,000 in total – and we want to make sure some of that money winds up supporting projects in your city and state!

State Farm Good Neighbor Service-Learning Grants

Deadline: November 9

State Farm™ is proud to team up with YSA to offer grants of up to \$1,000 for service-learning projects in K-12 public schools in all fifty US states and the District of Columbia, and in the Canadian provinces of Alberta, Ontario and New Brunswick. The State Farm Good Neighbor Service-Learning Grants encourage semester-long projects (a Semester of Service) that launch on Martin Luther King, Jr. Day of Service (January 16, 2012) and culminate on Global Youth Service Day (April 20-22, 2012). Up to 125 grants will be awarded; at least 10-15 grants will support projects addressing teen driver safety issues.

Learn more: <http://www.YSA.org/goodneighbor>

MLK Day Lead Organizer Grants

Deadline: November 18

YSA and CNCS are proud to support up to 16 MLK Day Lead Organizers with \$4,000 planning grants to coordinate Martin Luther King Day of Service (January 16, 2012) activities. This grant program is open to nonprofit organizations, K-12 schools, and colleges & universities in all 50 states and DC. Grantees will be required to engage at least 3,000 volunteers in community service or service-learning projects on MLK Day, build or strengthen partnerships with at least 5 partner organizations, and address one or more strategic issue areas.

Learn more: <http://www.YSA.org/grants/MLKDay>